

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~gasket for use in a bipolar battery~~ comprising:
at least two electrochemical cells;
a biplate arranged between adjacent cells, the biplate having opposed major surfaces and
a peripheral surface extending between the opposed major surfaces; and
a gasket supporting the biplate, said the gasket
being made from a hydrophobic material to prevent the creation of an electrolyte path between ~~adjacent the electrochemical cells when mounted in a battery,~~
~~the gasket further comprising: being frame shaped and a frame, designed to~~ at least partially encompassing the peripheral surface of the biplate when mounted in a bipolar battery;
and
provided with means for permitting gas passage through the gasket, and
wherein ~~said gasket is made from a the hydrophobic material with~~ has deformable properties ~~to provide a sealing to a biplate when mounted in a bipolar battery, whereby to~~ provide an outer pressure tight seal of the battery ~~is obtained.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The ~~gasket battery~~ according to claim 1, wherein the means for permitting gas passage through the gasket includes at least one channel interconnecting ~~adjacent the electrochemical cells when mounted in a battery.~~
3. (Currently Amended) The ~~gasket battery~~ according to claim 2, wherein each at least one channel includes a hole in the gasket, said hole being in communication with the inside of the outer pressure tight seal in each electrochemical cell ~~when mounted in a battery.~~
4. (Currently Amended) The ~~gasket battery~~ according to claim 1, further comprising: guiding means for controlling the position of ~~a the biplate during assembling of a the bipolar battery.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~gasket-battery~~ according to claim 4, wherein the guiding means includes at least one boss.
6. (Currently Amended) The ~~gasket-battery~~ according to claim 1, wherein the means for permitting gas passage ~~are~~is arranged on one distal end of the frame shaped gasket.
7. (Currently Amended) The ~~gasket-battery~~ according to claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic material ~~with deformable properties~~ is elastic.
8. (Currently Amended) The ~~gasket-battery~~ according to claim 6, wherein the hydrophobic material is a thermoplastic elastomer.
9. (Currently Amended) The ~~gasket-battery~~ according to claim 7, wherein the gasket is made through an injection molding process.
10. (Currently Amended) A bipolar battery having at least two ~~electromechanical~~ electrochemical cells comprising:
 - a case;
 - a negative end terminal including a negative endplate in contact with a negative electrode;
 - a positive end terminal including a positive endplate in contact with a positive electrode;
 - at least one set of a negative electrode, a biplate and a positive electrode arranged in a sandwich structure between ~~said~~the negative and the positive endplates, the biplate having opposed major surfaces and a peripheral surface extending between the opposed major surfaces;
 - at least one separator arranged between each negative and positive electrode ~~forming a battery cell~~, ~~said~~the separator including an electrolyte; and
 - a gasket in the shape of a frame, made of a hydrophobic material and arranged at least one of between each biplate ~~and or~~ between a biplate and end ~~terminal~~plate, whereby ~~said~~the gasket prevents an electrolyte path ~~from one cell to another cell~~ between the electrochemical cells,

_____ wherein the ~~gasket is made from a~~hydrophobic material ~~with~~has deformable properties to provide a sealing to each biplate and each end plate, whereby an outer pressure tight seal of the battery is obtained within the case, and

_____ wherein the gasket ~~further~~ includes means for permitting gas passage between ~~adjacent~~the electrochemical cells through the gasket thereby creating a common gas space for ~~all~~the electrochemical cells in the battery,

_____ wherein the gasket at least partially encompasses the peripheral surface of the biplate, and

_____ wherein the biplate does not include any through holes.

11. (Currently Amended) The battery according to claim 10, wherein the means for permitting gas passage through the gasket includes at least one channel interconnecting ~~adjacent~~the electrochemical cells.

12. (Currently Amended) The battery according to claim 11, wherein each channel includes a hole in the gasket, said hole being in communication with the inside of the outer pressure tight seal in each electrochemical cell.

13. (Currently Amended) The battery according to claim 10, wherein guiding means ~~are~~is provided in the gasket, for controlling the position of a biplate during assembling of ~~a~~the bipolar battery.

14. (Currently Amended) The battery according to claim 13, wherein the guiding means includes at least one boss.

15. (Currently Amended) The battery according to claim 10, wherein the means for permitting gas passage ~~are~~is arranged on one distal end of the ~~frame~~gasket.

16. (Currently Amended) The battery according to claim 10, wherein the hydrophobic material ~~with deformable properties~~ is elastic.

17. (Currently Amended) The battery according to claim 10, wherein the hydrophobic material is a thermoplastic elastomer.
18. (Original) The battery according to claim 16, wherein the gasket is made through an injection molding process.
19. (Currently Amended) The battery according to claim 10, wherein the battery is selected from the group consisting of: NiMH, NiCd and NiZn.
- 20.-26. (Cancelled).
27. (Currently Amended) The battery according to claim 10, ~~wherein the battery is provided with~~ further comprising:
_____ a positive terminal connector and a negative terminal connector ~~being~~ in contact with the positive and the negative endplates, respectively,
_____ ~~said~~ the positive and the negative terminal connectors being adjustably arranged adjustable relative to the case in such a way that the positive and the negative end terminals are individually accessible through the positive and the negative terminal connectors, respectively, from one of at least two sides of the case.
28. (Original) The battery according to claim 27, wherein a first end of each terminal connector is arranged to be attached to each endplate, and a second end, distal from the first end, is arranged to be fasten to the case of the battery.
29. (Original) The battery according to claim 28, wherein each terminal connector is attached to the respective endplate via a feed-through, which is secured in the case.
30. (Currently Amended) The battery according to claim 28, wherein the second end of each terminal connector is bent, and is fastened to the case by inserting the bent portion into ~~one out of~~ one or more grooves arranged in the case.

31.-32. (Canceled).

33. (Currently Amended) The ~~battery~~gasket according to claim 1, wherein the bipolar battery is a starved electrolyte bipolar battery.

34. (Currently Amended) The battery according to claim 10, wherein the bipolar battery is a starved electrolyte bipolar battery.

35. (Cancelled).

36. (Currently Amended) ~~A gasket~~The battery according to claim 4, wherein the guidance means comprises ~~the gasket~~a rim of the gasket.

37. (Original) The battery according to claim 13, wherein the guidance means comprises the rim of the gasket.